

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 014975  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

P - MR. HABIB

S/CL - MR. TARNOFF

S/S - MR. SHANKLE

-----220550Z 008921 /14

O 220521Z JAN 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 014975

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM CYRUS VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SECRETARY CYRUS VANCE)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

1. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST  
AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE CONVEY  
FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE:

PRESIDENT CARTER ATTACHES THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO MAKING  
SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS THIS YEAR TOWARD A JUST AND LASTING  
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE HAS THEREFORE ASKED ME TO  
VISIT CERTAIN KEY MIDDLE EAST CAPITALS SO THAT WE MAY  
HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE VIEWS OF THE LEADERS IN THE AREA  
AS WE DEVELOP OUR OWN THINKING ABOUT HOW PROGRESS TOWARD  
PEACE CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED. IF IT IS CONVENIENT TO

SECRET

SECRET

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PRESIDENT ASAD AND YOU, I WOULD PROPOSE TO ARRIVE IN  
DAMASCUS FROM AMMAN EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON OF SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 19, AND TO DEPART ABOUT NOON THE NEXT DAY FOR  
RIYADH, HAVING ALREADY VISITED ISRAEL, EGYPT AND JORDAN.  
I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING PRESIDENT ASAD AND YOU AND CON-  
VEYING THE HOPES OF PRESIDENT CARTER THAT THIS WILL BE A

FRUITFUL YEAR FOR THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE  
EAST. I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING WHETHER THE FOREGOING

TIME WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR MY VISIT TO YOUR COUNTRY.  
END MESSAGE.

3. PLEASE INFORM KHADDAM THAT, ASSUMING ALL CONCERNED  
AGREE TO MY PROPOSED VISIT AND TO ITS TIMING, MY TRIP  
WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE WHITE HOUSE AT ABOUT NOON,  
WASHINGTON TIME, MONDAY, JANUARY 24.  
HABIB

SECRET

NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PEACE TALKS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE014975  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ALATHERTON, JR./HLK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770023-1138  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** d9efe4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3677647  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 970924  
**Subject:** SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PSDC, SY, US, XF, (AL-ASAD, HAFIZ), (VANCE, CYRUS)  
**To:** DAMASCUS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d9efe4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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